

Message Text

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12

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 FEA-01 ERDA-07 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00

CIEP-02 COME-00 DODE-00 EB-07 FPC-01 H-02 INR-07

INT-05 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 OMB-01 PM-03 SAM-01 OES-05

SP-02 SS-15 STR-04 TRSE-00 FRB-01 PA-02 USIA-15

PRS-01 NIC-01 SAJ-01 /110 W

----- 006123

R 281600Z FEB 75

FM AMCONSUL ZAGREB

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2970

INFO AMEOPBSSY BELGRADE

UNCLAS ZAGREB 0147

E.OBD 11652: N/A

TAGS: ECON, ENRG, YO

SUBJECT: NEW POWER REDUCTIONS ANNOUNCED FOR CROATIA

REF: BELGRADE 0708

1. THE ZAGREB PRESS HAS ANNOUNCED FURTHER ELECTRIC POWER CUTS IN CROATIA, INCLUDING 40 PER CENT REDUCTIONS BEGINNING MARCH 1 FOR SEVERAL MAJOR CROATIAN PLANTS, AMONG THEM THE IMPORTANT IRON WORKS IN SISAK. EARLIER CALLS FOR REDUCTIONS IN USAGE OF ELECTRICITY WERE APPARENTLY INEFFECTIVE. OF A PLANNED REDUCTION IN ELECTRIC POWER CONSUMPTION BY 2.6 MILLION KWH, ONLY 1.3 MILLION KWH WERE REPORTEDLY SAVED; WITH THE DIFFERENCE COMING IN PART FROM ALREADY LOW HYDROELECTRIC RESERVES. ACCORDING TO PRESS REPORTS, HYDRO-ELECTRIC POWER PLANTS HAVE ON HAND LESS THAN HALF OF DESIRED WATER RESERVES. TO HELP MEET THE SHORTFALL, THERMO-ELECTRIC POWER PLANTS ARE WORKING OVERTIME, AND IMPORTS OF ELECTRIC POWER HAVE BEEN INCREASED BY 13 PER CENT.

2. COMMENT: IT WOULD APPEAR THAT POWER CUTS OF 40 PER CENT

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COULD NOT FAIL TO REDUCE PRODUCTION, AT LEAST TEMPORARILY, IN THE

AFFECTED PLANTS. IN THE ABSENCE OF MAJOR RAINFALL WHICH WOULD
HELP FILL DEPLETED RESERVOIRS, AND IF CONTINUED CALLS FOR CON-
SERVATION OF ELECTRIC POWER ARE NOT EFFECTIVE, FURTHER
CUTS IN CURRENT MAY OCCUR.
KAISER

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